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The Role of Iron Fortification and Supplementation in Addressing Iron Deficiency

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The Role of Iron Fortification and Supplementation in Addressing Iron Deficiency Kevin Loya, Erin Ward, Dr. Brian Lindshield KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY. Department of Food, Nutrition, Dietetics, and Health, Kansas State University

Abstract

Affecting an estimated 2 billion people, iron deficiency continues to be a leading risk factor causing disability and death worldwide. Iron deficiency is caused when the body fails to produce hemoglobin due to the lack of iron uptake. Ultimately, this can cause iron deficiency anemia. Iron deficiency anemia is the most prevalent type of anemia in the world. There are many different forms that can be supplemented to avoid iron deficiency anemia but determining the most effective form will help us understand future directions of iron fortification. We reviewed randomized controlled trials using electronic databases Scopus, Web of Science, EBSCOhost, and PubMed. Keywords were used to find the articles that would be considered for selection. This method gave us a result of 638 articles in total. Numerous articles were excluded due to the criteria not being met for the review. An article would be selected if it included: the quantity and name of the iron supplemented, the outcome was evaluated and reported, was peer reviewed, involved human clinical trials/ research trials, was performed over a minimum of two weeks, and iron levels were already low in the subjects. Our objective is to examine these articles and determine what iron forms are currently being used to fortify food or are being provided as supplements to combat issues with iron status, including iron deficiencies and which forms (and formats) of iron fortification/supplementation result in the most positive iron status-related biometric outcomes.

Objectives

Examine research to determine:

- What iron forms are being used to fortify food.
- What iron forms are being supplemented.
- Which iron fortification/ supplementation has the most positive result to reduce iron deficiency anemia.

Methods







Articles retained for further analysis

Full-reviewed articles (n=32)

Excluded Articles

Abstracts (n=6) Animal studies (n=84) Bioavailability (n=18) Discussion/ reviews (n=13) In vitro/ cell culture studies (n=14) Non-English (n=1) Non-iron (n=39)

- are not relevant to the literature review.
- fortification and supplementation.

- 20355034
- 177-184.

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- Bridges to the Future Program
- the literature review.



Next Steps

• Examine the articles more thoroughly to exclude any that

Developing

Scholars

Program

• Begin writing the systematic literature review on iron

References

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